

980 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Nov 21st 1914

My dear Dr Robinson:—

It is to be regretted
that Mr Bryants collection did not
fall into the hands of some Danish
or Swedish specialist for determination
— some one better versed than I can
claim to be in the intricacies of
variation exhibited by a few
species of *Salix* in Greenland —
I have not access to Lange's *Censpectus*
of the Flora of Greenland, and I have
seen comparatively few specimens
authentically named by Fries —
Anderson — and others — However I
console myself with the reflection
that the confusion is one existing
primarily in nature of which

The compressed literature of the subject is but a faithful reflection. Every attempt to specialize these forms ends in confusion - for the chances are ten to one that a fresh collection will more or less repeat all the nice conclusions based upon previously acquired material - As a sort of apology for my not attempting to refer any of the particular forms of this collection to those described by Andersson and others I may mention the fact that even Andersson himself did not record the name of a single one of his forms of *D. arctica* in the *Revis Herbarium*, - so I am informed by Mr Baker -

Concerning the change of name

in the case of *S. arctica* R. Br. (not
of Pallas) I beg to include a
separate sheet from the Botanical
Gazette. published several years
ago. Before taking this stand
I submitted my manuscript to
Dr Watson and am happy to say
that it received his cordial
approval. as a revision of names
within what he regarded as
conservative and legitimate bounds.
Of course I do not expect any
Britisher to give up his "*S. arctica*
R. Br." but if he has to deal
with the flora of our Alaskan
Coast the *S. arctica* of Pallas
will bother him unless he does
as Anderson did - ignore the

Priority of *S. arctica* Pallas.

We could have two *Salix arctica*
conveniently and nothing is clearer
than the fact that Pallas died
ten years or more before the
specimens were brought back by
English explorers upon which
Robert Brown founded his *S. arctica*

I took out for my own part
four or five specimens where there
would not in the least impair the
integrity of the collection. I
have it hooked a single unique
though my fingers did itch
wondering one or two of them!

I return the package by
the American Express -

I hear from you more frequently
than you imagine though our friend Deane
his letters are with the Gazette and Bulletin
lumped together in the matter of keeping a lonesome
botanist - out in the prairie of Illinois - posted as to
what is going on amongst the active workers

Miss Bell
C. D. Bell
Miss Bell
Miss Bell